

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

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WARSAW FOR SECRETARY BUTZ' PARTY

E.O. 11652: NA

TAGS: OVIP (BUTZ, EARL L.) EAGR RO

SUBJ: VISIT OF SECRETARY BUTZ TO ROMANIA

1. SUMMARY. SECRETARY BUTZ TWO DAY VISIT TO ROMANIA
GAVE STRONG IMPETUS TO FURTHER DEVELOPMENT OF OUR BILATERAL
AGRICULTURAL TRADE AND COOPERATION WITH ROMANIA. IN HIS
DISCUSSIONS SECRETARY STRESSED U.S. DESIRE TO IMPLEMENT
PROMPTLY TWO BILATERAL PROTOCOLS ON AGRICULTURE AND ASSURED
GOR OF OUR ABILITY AND INTENT TO BE RELIABLE SUPPLIER. ROMANIAN
HOSTS OUTLINED THEIR INTERESTS IN CCC CREDITS, IN RESEARCH AND
IN POSSIBLE NEW AREAS OF COOPERATION. AGREEMENT REACHED TO
CONVENE MEETING OF USDA AND MINAG REPRESENTATIVES IN WASHINGTON
IN LAST THIRD OF JANUARY TO DECIDE RESEARCH PRIORITIES FOR 1976.
END SUMMARY.

2. PROGRAM FOR SECRETARY BUTZ' VISIT TO ROMANIA NOVEMBER 21-23

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FEATURED DISCUSSIONS WITH SENIOR ROMANIAN GOVERNMENTAL

LEADERSHIP IN AGRICULTURE AND INTERNATIONAL AFFAIRS. MEETINGS WITH PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU (REPORTED SEPTTEL), DEPY PM PATAN, FOREIGN MINISTER MACOVESCU, GNA PRESIDENT GIOSAN AND MIN AGR MICULESCU AFFORDED SECRETARY EXPOSURE TO ROMANIAN THINKING ON WORLD FOOD SITUATION AND INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION AS WELL AS BILATERAL AGRICULTURAL RELATIONS. REFERRING TO PRESIDENT FORD'S DETERMINATION TO SEEK CLOSER RELATIONS WITH ROMANIA, SECRETARY ARTICULATED U.S. DESIRE FOR DEVELOPMENT OF EXPANDED BILATERAL AGRICULTURAL TIES. SECRETARY EMPHASIZED THAT, IN ACCORDANCE WITH PRESIDENT'S WISH, HE SEEKING RAPID AND FULL IMPLEMENTATION OF BILATERAL PROTOCOLS ON DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURAL TRADE AND COOPERATION. TOWARD THIS END SECRETARY AND MINAG MICULESCU AGREED THAT THEIR REPRESENTATIVES WOULD MEET IN WASHINGTON IN PERIOD JANUARY 20-30 TO DETERMINE JOINT AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH THEMES FOR 1976 AND TO PURSUE FURTHER EXCHANGES OF INFORMATION. FOLLOWING ARE TOPICAL HIGHLIGHTS OF SECRETARY'S VISIT.

3. CCC

SECRETARY ASKED DEPY PM PATAN FOR FULL LISTING OF ROMANIAN INTERESTS IN CCC CREDITS ASSUMING HYPOTHETICALLY THERE WERE NO RESTRICTIONS. PATAN MADE REQUEST FOR PROMPT SHIPMENT OF 200,000-300,000 TONS OF SOYBEANS AND SIMILAR QUANTITY OF FEEDGRAINS. IN RESPONSE TO SECRETARY'S QUESTIONING PATAN ALSO EXPRESSED INTEREST IN DAIRY BREEDING CATTLE (HOLSTEIN-FRIESIAN) AND SOYBEAN OIL, QUANTITIES NOT STIPULATED. (MICULESCU LATER PLACED ROMANIAN DAIRY CATTLE NEEDS AT 5,000 HEAD PER YEAR FOR FIVE YEARS). ROMANIAN REQUEST FOR ADDITIONAL CCC CREDIT ON COTTON REAFFIRMED BY PATAN WHO, DESPITE EXPLICIT REQUEST MADE BY CHARGE DURING NOVEMBER 20 CALL, FAILED TO SPECIFY EXACT AMOUNT. (LETTER BEING SENT TO PATAN TO REQUEST THIS INFORMATION). SECRETARY PROMISED TO EXAMINE ROMANIAN FEEDGRAIN NEEDS IN LIGHT OF CONGRESSIONALLY-APPROVED INCREASE IN CCC LEVELS. HE OBSERVED THAT USDA HAD NEVER INCLUDED SOYBEANS UNDER CCC AND THAT WE WOULD HAVE DIFFICULTIES DOING SO NOW. REGARDING DAIRY CATTLE BREEDING STOCK, SECRETARY INDICATED WE COULD ASSIST ROMANIA. (EXIMBANK TEAM VISITING ROMANIA AT SAME TIME AS SECRETARY ALSO INDICATED WILLINGNESS TO CONSIDER FINANCING OF BREEDING ANIMALS).

4. AGRICULTURAL RESEARCH/EXCHANGES.

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A. DISCUSSIONS BETWEEN GIOSAN (PRES., ROMANIAN ACADEMY OF AGRICULTURAL AND FORESTRY SCIENCE) AND ERS ADMINISTRATOR WEST ON NOVEMBER 22 (SEPTTEL) PRODUCED AGREEMENT TO EXCHANGE INFORMATION, PUBLICATIONS, RESEARCH REQUESTS AND RESEARCH IN AREAS COVERED BY ANNEX TO PROTOCOL. WEST IDENTIFIED TWO TOPICS (SUNFLOWERS AND HOOF AND MOUTH DISEASE) AS POSSIBLE THEMES FOR JOINT GOVERNMENTAL RESEARCH. WEST AGREED, THAT

UPON REVIEW BY ARS, USDA WOULD PROVIDE REACTION IN DECEMBER, WITH DECISION ON 1976 RESEARCH PRIORITIES TO BE MADE BY WORKING GROUP IN JANUARY.

B. REGARDING SEPARATE AREAS OF ROMANIAN RESEARCH COOPERATION WITH U.S. UNIVERSITIES, MICULESCU APPEALED FOR USG FINANCIAL ASSISTANCE AND ENCOURAGEMENT TO SECURE IMPLEMENTATION OF PROPOSED MINAG AGREEMENTS WITH IOWA STATE AND NEBRASKA. SECRETARY AGREED TO EXAMINE FINDLEY/HUMPHREY BILL TO DETERMINE WHETHER THIS PROPOSED LEGISLATION CONTAINS SUFFICIENT FLEXIBILITY TO FUND RESEARCH IN COUNTRIES WHICH ARE NOT RPT NOT AID RECIPIENTS. MICULESCU ALSO ENLISTED SECRETARY'S SUPPORT FOR INCREASE IN NUMBER OF ROMANIAN PARTICIPANTS IN CALIFORNIA FARM BUREAU PROGRAM TO 80 PER YEAR AND TO EXTEND THIS EXCHANGE PROGRAM TO OTHER STATES, SUCH AS KANSAS AND NEBRASKA, WHERE CONDITIONS MOST NEARLY APPROXIMATE THOSE FOUND IN ROMANIA.

5. INFORMATION EXCHANGE.

APART FROM CCC REQUESTS ROMANIANS INDICATED NO RPT NO OTHER IMPORT REQUIREMENTS, WHICH ARTICLE II OF PROTOCOL ON DEVELOPMENT OF AGRICULTURAL TRADE STIPULATES IS TO BE FURNISHED "BY NOVEMBER". SIMILARLY, THERE WAS NO FORMAL ROMANIAN TRANSMISSION OF AGRICULTURAL ECONOMIC INFORMATION AS FORESEEN IN ARTICLE I OF PROTOCOL, ALTHOUGH VARIOUS GOR OFFICIALS PROVIDED RANGE OF PRODUCTION ESTIMATES FOR PRINCIPAL CROPS (SEPTEL).

6. WORLD FOOD SITUATION/INTERNATIONAL AGRICULTURAL COOPERATION. STRIKING IDENTITY OF VIEWS EMERGED FROM SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH FOREIGN MINISTER MACOVESCU. BOTH AGREED THAT PRODUCTION OF VASTLY INCREASED QUANTITIES OF FOOD IN COMING GENERATION WAS PREREQUISITE FOR WORLD PEACE AND POLITICAL STABILITY. SECRETARY VIEWED INTERNATIONAL FUND FOR AGRICULTURAL DEVELOPMENT AS PROVIDING EXCELLENT FRAMEWORK FOR COOPERATION BETWEEN DEVELOPED LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES. REFERRING TO POINTS HE MADE AT 7TH SPECIAL SESSION, MACOVESCU SAID THAT FOOD PROBLEM COULD NOT BE RESOLVED BY CONTINUED RELIANCE UPON GENEROSITY OF FEW EFFICIENT PRODUCERS. SOLUTION WAS RATHER TO FIND WAYS TO MOBILIZE UNDERUTILIZED HUMAN RESOURCES AND LAND IN DEVELOPING COUNTRIES SO THAT THESE COUNTRIES COULD BETTER SATISFY THEIR OWN NEEDS. IN THIS CONTEXT MACOVESCU SOUNDED FAMILIAR THEME OF ROMANIA'S DESIRE TO COLLABORATE WITH U.S. ON PROJECTS IN THIRD COUNTRIES.

7. MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU

SECRETARY'S MEETING WITH PRESIDENT CEAUSESCU, WHICH SUBJECT OF SEPTEL, PARALLELED SESSION WITH MACOVESCU. CEAUSESCU PROPOSED JOINT U.S.-ROMANIAN PROJECT IN PORK PRODUCTION. OBSERVING SUCH PROJECT WOULD BE OUTSIDE USG'S PROVINCE,

SECRETARY PROMISED TO ASCERTAIN INTEREST OF AMERICAN FIRMS.

8. COMMUNIQUE.

AT CONCLUDING SESSION, SECRETARY AND MICULESCU SIGNED COMMUNIQUE WHICH, IN ADDITION TO RELATING ELEMENTS OF PROGRAM, RECORDED AGREEMENT THAT REPRESENTATIVES OF TWO DEPARTMENTS OF AGRICULTURE WOULD MEET IN WASHINGTON IN JANUARY. PURPOSE OF THAT MEETING WILL BE "TO ARRANGE AND SIGN SPECIFIC PROPOSALS FOR TECHNICAL, SCIENTIFIC AND ECONOMIC COOPERATION".

9. VISITS TO PRODUCTION UNITS/RESEARCH INSTITUTIONS.

COMPLEMENTING SECRETARY'S DISCUSSIONS WERE VISITS TO INTER-COOPERATIVE BABY BEEF UNIT AT BARCANESTI, BROILER FARM AND POULTRY SLAUGHTERHOUSE AT PLOIESTI, COOPERATIVE FARM AT BUCOV, AND RESEARCH INSTITUTE FOR VITICULTURE AT VALEA CALUGAREASCA. THESE AFFORDED SECRETARY FIRST-HAND EXPOSURE TO CROSS SECTION OF MORE ADVANCED ELEMENTS IN ROMANIAN AGRICULTURE.

10. THIS MESSAGE NOT RPT NOT CLEARED WITH SECRETARY OR ANY MEMBER OF HIS PARTY.
VIETS

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Message Attributes

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